



HOMES AND GARDENS

Ornamental grasses for every garden

They're versatile, they're low maintenance and they look great in a garden in the dead of winter. If that isn't enough, check out the list (with photos) of 10 grower-recommended grasses. **B4**



SPORTS

Nurkic starting to get going for the Blazers

Portland's starting center has enjoyed back-to-back solid games after a slow start to the season. His teammates want him to keep playing aggressively and angrily, like he did last season. **C1**

MILITARY COURT RULING

Bergdahl spared prison sentence

Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, who walked away from his post in Afghanistan, spent close to five years as a prisoner of the Taliban and triggered a search that left some of his comrades severely wounded, was spared a prison sentence by a military judge Friday.

The background: Several service members were seriously hurt in the search for Bergdahl, who left his post in 2009. President Barack Obama traded Taliban prisoners to bring Bergdahl home, a move ripped by Republicans.

The ruling: Bergdahl pleaded guilty last month to desertion and misbehavior before the enemy. While President Trump called for the death penalty for Bergdahl back in 2015, that was not an option. Instead, the military judge gave Bergdahl a dishonorable discharge, reduced his rank from sergeant to private and ordered him to forfeit pay equal to \$1,000 per month for 10 months.

The reaction: President Trump tweeted "The decision on Sergeant Bergdahl is a complete and total disgrace to our Country and to our Military."

Inside: More about the sentencing on **A7**

THE ENVIRONMENT

MUSSEL MESS

Mollusks in Willamette aren't reproducing, which has implications for the ecosystem



A new study commissioned by Willamette Riverkeeper has found that freshwater mussels, a key indicator of river health and water quality, are not reproducing on a swatch of the river. *Andrew Theen, staff*

Andrew Theen *The Oregonian/OregonLive*

One of the largest known mussel beds on the Willamette River, home to tens of thousands of mollusks that can live for up to a century on the river bottom, appears to be in poor health.

The mussels are not reproducing, according to a study released this week by the nonprofit Willamette Riverkeeper.

Because the mussels can live for as long or longer than humans, it's worrisome researchers found a large healthy older population but no juveniles. "At some

time in the past, the habitat was suitable for mussels," the study said, "but conditions within the lifespan of this aged population have changed."

Celeste Mazzacano, a veteran freshwater mussel scientist, conducted the research along with Willamette Riverkeeper staff and volunteers this summer. It's the most in-depth look at the health of the freshwater mussel known as the Western pearlshell in the Willamette River system.

It's not great news.

SEE MUSSELS, A6



SUNDAY MORNING

Set your clocks back

Daylight Saving Time ends. Turn clocks back one hour. Also, check smoke detector batteries.

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